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COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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POCAN HOUSE GOV

United States House of Representatives

February 10, 2017

Walter Shaub Director, U.S. Office of Government Ethics 1201 New York Ave NW #500 Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Schaub:

We are writing to request your review of potential ethics violations concerning Kellyanne Conway's recent public comments encouraging Americans to purchase items from the fashion line produced by President Trump's daughter, Ivanka Trump. Kellyanne Conway, Counselor to President Trump, is a federal employee and appears to have clearly violated federal ethics laws delineated by the Office of Government Ethics.

According to the Office of Government Ethics, "An employee shall not use his public office for his own private gain, for the endorsement of any product, service or enterprise, or for the private gain of friends, relatives, or persons with whom the employee is affiliated in a nongovernmental capacity." In a February 9, 2017, interview from the White House press briefing room with the Fox News Channel, Kellyanne Conway urged Americans to "go buy Ivanka's stuff...It's a wonderful line. I own some of it...I fully---I'm going to give a free commercial here. Go buy it today, everybody. You can find it online."

Across the government, federal employees are expected to be held to a high standard of ethics. As a federal employee, Kellyanne Conway appears to have clearly violated these standards with her recent comments. It is especially troubling that Kellyanne Conway appears to have used her position of power in the White House to directly enrich the Trump family through Ivanka Trump's fashion line. Such a blatant disregard for federal law and ethics standards set for public servants undermines public faith in our government.

We encourage you to use your authority Congress granted your office under the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as amended, to examine the blatant and inappropriate remarks made by Kellyanne Conway immediately and ensure members of the Trump Administration do not continue to use their positions of power to enrich members of the Trump family.

Sincerely

Mark Pocan

Member of Congress

John Sarbanes

Member of Congress

Ted W. Sun Barbara Lee Ted W. Lieu Member of Congress Member of Congress Michelle Lujan Grisham Member of Congress Member of Congress Betty Mccollum James P. McGovern Member of Congress Member of Congress Gwendolynne S. Moore Jerrold Nadler Member of Congress Member of Congress Chellie Pingree Member of Congress Member of Congress **David Price** Member of Congress Member of Congress Jan Schakowsky Bradley S. Schneider Member of Congress Member of Congress HUN Darren Soto Carol Shea-Porter Member of Congress Member of Congress

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